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May
1990

Carolina Country®

NCEMC Expanding Power Supply Resources

Part I of a Two-Part Series

See *Pages 18-19*

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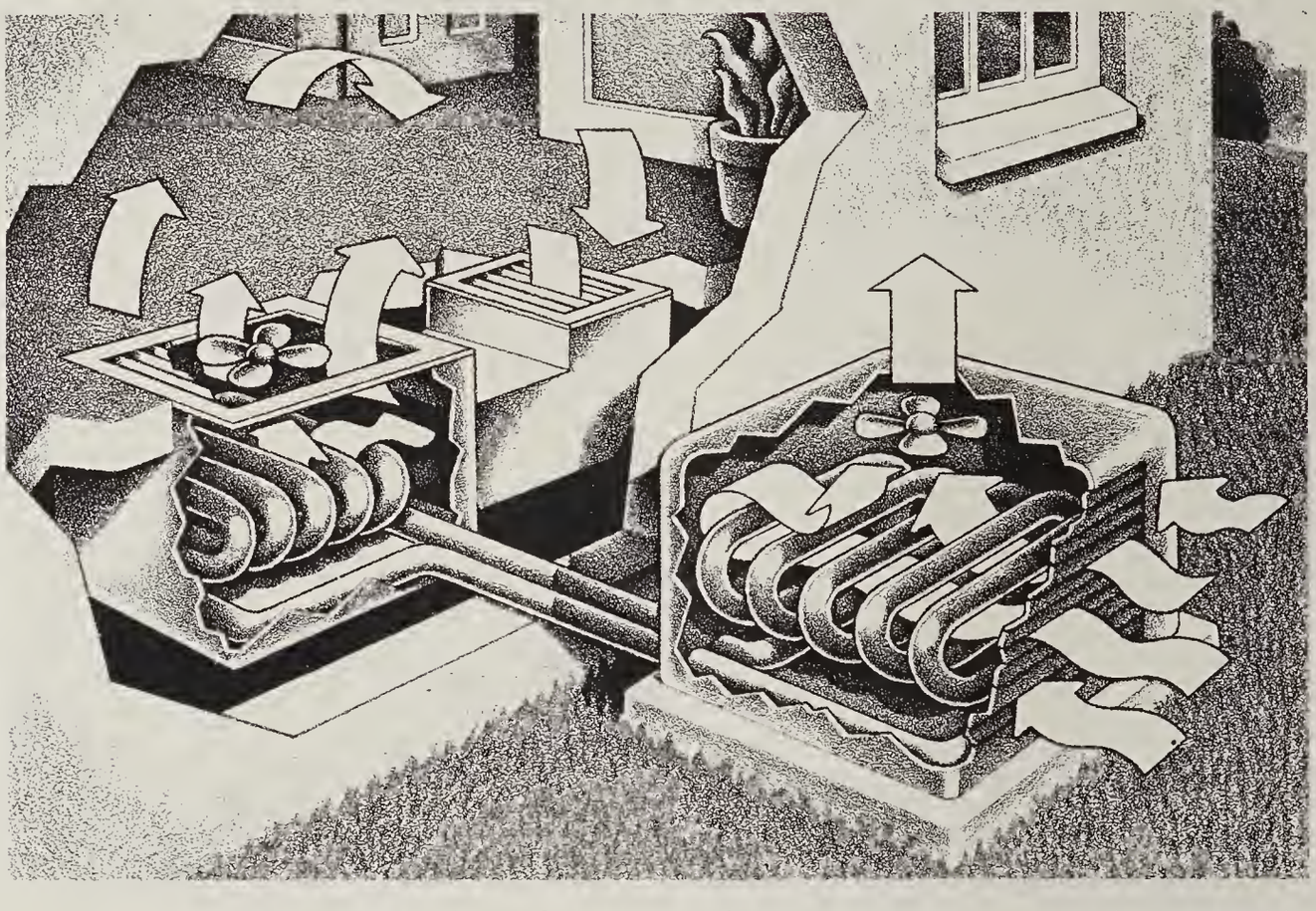

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ɔ-ops: Still 'Vital' To Rural Development

The following is an excerpt from an ess by U. S. Secretary of Agriculture Clay- 'eutter. He made the remarks at the 1990 ual Meeting of the National Rural Elec- Cooperative Association in Orlando, FL.

With involved local leadership, the 1990s ɔecome an exciting decade of new oppor- ies for rural people.

I believe that the 1990s will be a time ı America's smaller communities more essfully integrate themselves into the rap- xpanding world economy. It is impera- hat they do so. Infrastructure—including munications and electric power—will be ɔ this success.

A weakened farm economy hurt rural rica during the first half of the 1980s, and e the 1985 farm bill addressed that finan- tress quite successfully, there are still enges in many rural communities.

To address this, President Bush has red implementation of recommendations tly emanating from the White House omic Policy Council's Working Group ural Development. The president feels gly that the federal government needs to r coordinate its rural development efforts ɔre successfully work with state and local rs. He sees local leadership as vital in ng rural communities adjust to the rapid omic changes that are sweeping the d today. I concur and I also believe rural ric cooperatives can play a development s crucial as in the 1930s when the electri- on of rural America was just beginning.

Rural America today needs diversification ployment opportunities. While agricul- s still the top dollar generator in rural ica, we successfully employ relatively eople in most rural communities. Only t nine percent of all rural Americans now on farms or ranches; fewer than 19 per- now derive their livelihoods from activi- ssociated with agriculture.

There are three possibilities for expanded oyment opportunities in rural commu- nities: (1) Current businesses can expand, (2) New businesses can be started, and (3) Businesses from other areas can be relo- cated in rural areas. None of these possibilities will develop unless rural leaders stimulate their communities into action and make it happen—something that rural electric co-ops have been doing for years.

It was 55 years ago this spring when the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) was started, and the agency is still a major contributor in keeping rural America in the economic mainstream. As we adjust to chang- ing global economic conditions, the role of the REA and its cooperatives will change and adjust, but your participation in the economic development process will remain vital.

The federal government, through its executive decision-making power, and the Congress, through its legislative actions, can help shape the macroeconomic process in our country—but only local leaders can mobilize the creative and financial drive to build viable economic communities. Central government by itself cannot furnish all the answers; the incredible failure of the centrally planned economies of Eastern Europe provides ample proof of that.

At USDA, this will be an incredibly active year. We'll be working on the 1990 farm bill as well as getting the Presidential initiative on rural development under way.

The farm bill will be impacted by an over- riding need to bring the federal deficit under control. It's time to work smarter, instead of believing that every challenge can best be solved by simply throwing more federal dollars at it.

We must make certain that our commod- ity programs have enough flexibility to allow farmers to grow crops that consumers want, instead of crops that the government dictates. This, in concert with a stronger U. S. trading stance in world markets for agricultural com- modities and products, will go a long way toward keeping the agrarian economy robust.

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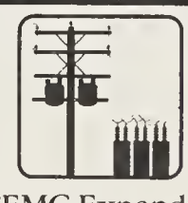

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1990
Carolina Country®

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Cover: "The Old Homes of Beaufort

Our cover this month features an original painting by Bea fort artist Alan Cheek titled, "The Old Homes of Beaufort." It w done especially for use on a new note card published by Carol Bessent Hayman of Beaufort.

Mrs. Hayman, a free lance writer and poet, designed the card to feature one of her poems—which is also titled, "The O Homes of Beaufort." The poem is a tribute to the town's histori old houses that "sit quietly confident, / white, or blue, or grey, in blocks laid out by ghosts." The poem won an award in the 1987 North Carolina Poetry Council Contest.

The card is the second collaboration between the writer and the artist. They teamed up in 1988 to produce a similar no card titled, "Beaufort-By-The-Sea." It included one of Mrs. Hayman's poems and several of Cheek's paintings depicting Beaufo scenes.

The new card's publication coincides with this year's 30th Anniversary of Beaufort's Old Homes Tour, which is scheduled for June 29-30. *(For details, see "Here, There and Everywhere" item, page 9).*

The card, priced at $2.50 each, is available at retail stores i Beaufort, including Cheek's Down East Gallery. It can also be ordered directly from Mrs. Hayman. Copies of "Beaufort-By-Th Sea" are also available for $1.25 each. In each case, add 50 cent for shipping. Sets featuring one of each are available for $4.25, including shipping.

Write to Mrs. Hayman at 618 Ann St., Beaufort, NC 28516.

Cheek, a Graham native who has been painting for several years, is also offering a new signed-and-numbered limited edition print of his watercolor, "Bodie Island Light." It's part of a series he's doing on North Carolina lighthouses.

The print has an image size of 14″ x 24″ on 19″ x 28″ paper. Its price is $80. Add $6 for shipping charges. To order a print or to obtain information about this and other Cheek pain ings, write to him at Down East Gallery, P.O. Box 1009, Beaufo NC 28516. For mail orders using major credit cards, call the gallery at (919) 728-4410.

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The publication, the N. C. Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc., and the member cooperatives endorse none of the products or services advertised.

Advertising that does not conform to these standards or that is deceptive or misleading is never knowingly accepted.

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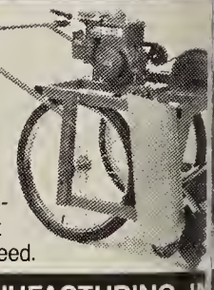
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EDITOR'S LETTER

Readers,

An item in this space in the April issue ed an apology for a typographical error in nuary edition that made the house sparrow otected species."

The apology inspired one of our readers to about her own unpleasant experiences typos as the editor of a consumer news- for a Midwest electric co-op.

"I remember years ago when I first started ng the newsletter," she wrote, "we found an e which should have read 'we are happy to many of our former 4-H members are now nunity leaders in their areas.' It came out *ot* community leaders. . .' Our manager me personally go through and use a felt- arker to make that 't' into a 'w.' Today we 5,000 strong. At that time we only had to to 5,000 copies."

On another occasion, the same newsletter the word "morale" and it came out "mor- Again, the editor was put to work making al corrections.

She added: "I've come up with lots of typos but fortunately have waited until the next to correct them. Fun, isn't it?"

A newsletter from Davidson County artist osey Essick reports that *Carolina Country's* f his "Good Morning Miss DeLapp" on nuary cover "generated a tremendous nse."

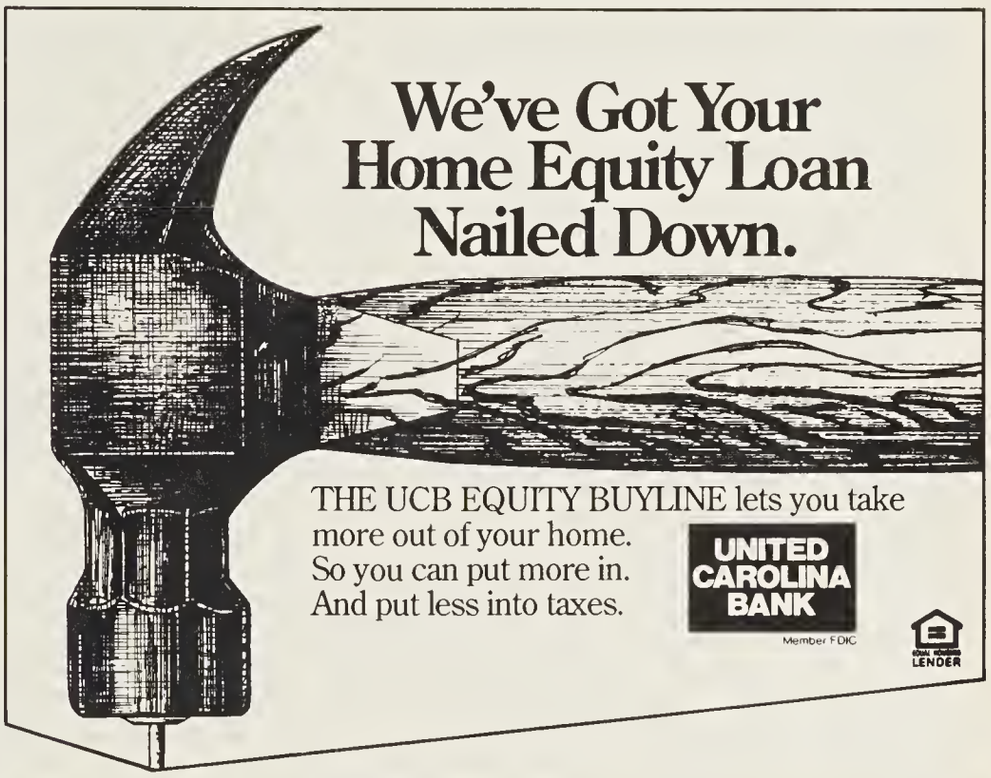
The painting depicts a farmhouse in the y Creek community of Davidson County. e home of Alice DeLapp.

The newsletter notes that she "has become famous" in the community as a result of ainting, having had numerous calls and from people who have come to appreciate ome.

"One lady, after seeing the (magazine) and reading the article in *Carolina Coun-* rove all the way from Fayetteville just to her and see the house."

Best regards,

Owen Bishop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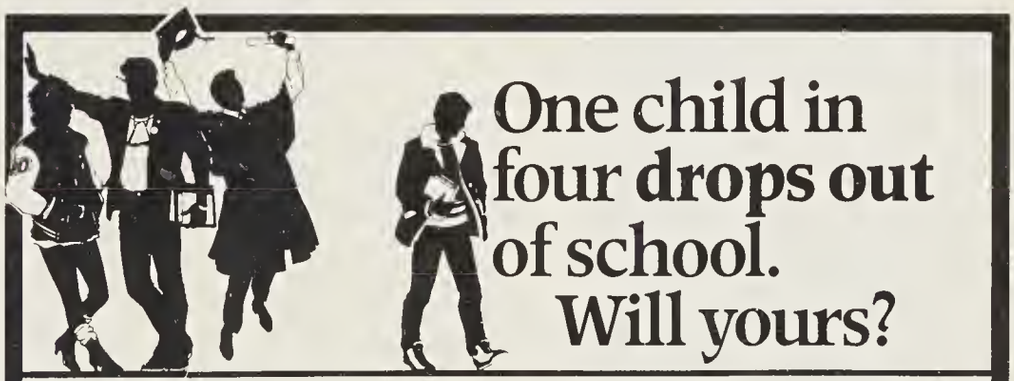

Drop-out can happen in any family. **"Staying In"** is an interactive family program for open communication and personality assessment — a guide for keeping your child happily and successfully in school.

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I look forward to getting your magazine each month and especially enjoy your recipes. I have used a lot of them.

Dollie Grantham
Rt. 5, Winston-Salem

"Please Don't Ever, Ever Stop Printing The Carolina Country"

I just LOVE my *Carolina Country* magazine. It's small so I can have hopes of reading through it. It has excellent recipes and I dearly appreciate "Hank's Gardening Guide." It's helped me so many times. Please don't ever, ever stop printing the *Carolina Country.*

Mrs. Ronald Peterson
Rt. 4, Clinton

Congrats On "A Fine Magazine"!

Congratulations on a fine magazine. I always enjoy reading it.

John K. Cox, Raleigh

"We Don't Appreciate What We Have Because We Always Want More"

I am writing in regard to a note in the April *Carolina Country* entitled "Many Social Security Recipients Are 'Hard Pressed' To Make Ends Meet." It was talking about Mr. Paul J. Button's letter in the February issue.

Mr. Button's Social Security is $261 more than mine and I am supposed to be getting disability benefits. I had a heart attack the 20th of October, 1988. The doctors said there was no way that I could live. My chance of recovering was only 25 percent but thanks to God and a lot of people's prayers I am here today.

I am thankful for my second chance at life and am trying to enjoy life more. My wife is not old enough to receive Social Security so we have to try to live and pay our bills on what little Social Security I get—$343, which is about $400 below the federal poverty level. We have no other income—no retirement or checking or savings accounts—just the one check monthly for $343.

Mr. Button would have something to complain about if he had to get by on mine. I could take what he gets and live like a king. We don't appreciate what we have because we always want more.

Social Security says I am getting disability benefits but I don't kn where the benefits are. I think everybody should have to live on what for one month and I will guarantee they would be thankful for what t have. A lot of us would be glad to see $604 a month coming in.

I have worked and paid into Social Security for about 40 years a can't get anything from it.

Dennis Scott, Rt. 1

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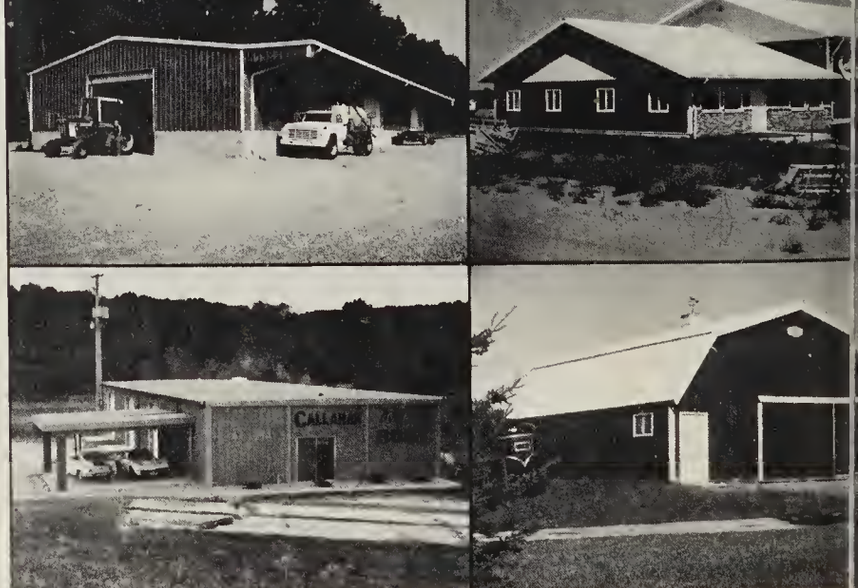

ensus Will Reduce Rural America's Clout

After the 1990 Census takers count all 250 on or so Americans and analyze their race, tal status and age, rural America's dwindling ressional voice will fade even further.

The nation's decennial nose count—which rovide a snapshot of the population as of 1—serves as a guide for public spending letermines how much congressional clout of the 50 states will wield for the next ars.

Some educated guesses are already in about the Census will find on that score.

Only about 30 current seats in the House of esentatives are solidly rural, says Wally Rus- overnment relations director for the nal Rural Electric Cooperative Association CA), which represents the rural utilities in ington.

After the Census tally is in, that number lwindle further.

According to the Population Reference au, an independent, non-profit research oration in Washington, 11 states will lose at one House seat because the 1990 Census is cted to show that they've lost population ve to other states. Seven of those 11 states ome to many rural electric cooperative bers: Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Mon- Ohio and Pennsylvania. Of the other four cted to lose House seats, New Jersey, New and West Virginia have at least one co-op; nly loser with no rural electric presence n its borders is Massachusetts.

On the other hand, co-ops are strong in six seven states that are expected to gain —Arizona, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia. The nation's biggest gainer , California, has four co-ops.

The number of seats in the House of Repre- tives—435—will not change. The boun- s of congressional districts will change, ver, to more accurately reflect the popula- Members of Congress who take their seats 92 will serve the new districts.

Unfortunately for rural areas, new congres- districts in states that gain House seats will rved out of the cities. But that doesn't mean rt for rural programs will slip as well, d said.

"You can't just assume that because we have loss of rural representation that's going to mean a loss of support for rural electrification," he said, adding that "people who represent urban areas" have offered good support on the crucial issues of rural development and government lending.

Beyond that is the balancing effect of the Senate, where states are represented equally. Rural states with small populations, such as Wyoming and North Dakota, send two senators to Washington, as do states with hefty urban centers, such as California and New York.

With electric co-ops in 46 states, and significant agricultural interests in all 50 states, rural concerns usually get consideration in the Senate.

The rural electric program has urban and rural friends in both the House and Senate, Rustad said.

"As long as it appears to be in the national interest to have affordable electric power, and as long as it appears to be in the national interest to subsidize the investor-owned utilities, the municipal systems and the rural electric co-ops that provide the power, then it's our duty to make sure we're not put at a competitive disadvantage."

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HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE

Drama Spotlights Andrew Jackson

The life of President Andrew Jackson is just part of the attraction of "Listen and Remember," an outdoor drama now opening its 26th season in Waxhaw.

The production, which focuses on the lives of the early pioneers in the Old Waxhaw Settlement, will be staged June 8-9, 15-16, 22-23 and 29-30 at the Waxhaw Amphitheater, near Monroe.

Jackson, the nation's seventh president, spent many of his early days in the Waxhaw area. The production follows his path to the White House, and offers a glimpse of life in the Colonial Period.

Tickets for the event are $5 for adults and $3 for children under 12.

For more information, write to "Listen and Remember," P.O. Box 1776, Waxhaw, NC 28173. Phone: (704) 843-2300.

Civil War Books Available At Reduced Prices

This year could be a good time to catch up on your Civil War reading with a little help from the North Carolina Division of Archives and History.

The agency is making many of its books available to the public at discount prices. Their subjects range from military history to homefront activities.

The discounts are being offered in recognition of the 125th anniversary of the end of the Civil War.

To request a brochure describing all of the available Civil War titles, write to: Historical Publications Section (N), Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601.

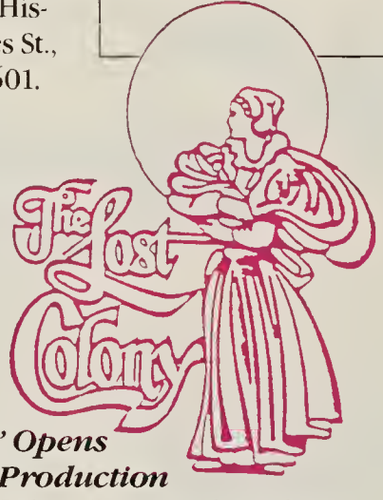
Historic Homes To Be Featured On Beaufort Tour

The historic homes and buildings of Beaufort will be showcased June 29-30 during the 30th anniversary of the Old Homes Tour.

The tour, sponsored by the Beaufort Historical Association, will feature buildings dating back to the 1700s, including plantation-styled homes and various restored churches.

Tickets for the tour are $10. On June 29, a pig pickin' and dance will be held at the Beaufort Courthouse Square in honor of the tour 30th anniversary. Tickets for that event are $7.50.

For more information on the tour contact the Beaufort Historical Association, 100 Block Turner St., P.O. Box 1709, Beaufort, NC 28516. Phone: (919) 728-5225.



"Lost Colony" Opens 50th Year Of Production

"The Lost Colony," written by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Paul Green, will open its 50th season June 8 at the Waterside Theatre on Roanoke Island, near Manteo.

The drama, scheduled to be performed daily except Sunday, until August 25, follows North Carolina's earliest settlers, who mysteriously disappeared.

Since it began production, almost 3 million people have viewed "The Lost Colony," making it one of America's premier outdoor dramas.

Tickets for the production are $10 for adults and $4 for children under 12.

For additional information, contact "The Lost Colony,"P.O. Box 40, Manteo, NC 27954. Phone: (919) 473-3414.

Gold Panning Contest Slated

Competitors will be trying to strike gold at the Second Annual North Carolina Open Gold Pan Championships, June 23, in Stanfield.

The event will be at the Reed Gold Mine State Historic Site, about 23 miles east of Charlotte. In addition to the competition, other activities, food and gold-panning demonstrations will be featured for the public.

There is no admission charge for the event. Entry fees for the panning competition are $7 for adults, and $5 for entrants in the junior division (under 14).

For more information, contact the Gold Mine at 962 Reed Mine Road, Stanfield, NC 281 Phone: (704) 786-8337.

Benson Sets Gospel Music Competition

Benson will b with the sound gospel music as town hosts the 7 Annual State Sing Convention, Jun 23-24.

The conventic one of the oldest ing competition the state, has att thousands of visi in the past to he

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rtists will appear
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eginning June 29.
ch artists as bari-
Paul Plishka,
st Andrew Coop-
ck and oboist
k Avril will be
g the performers
will appear this
n, which will run
gh August 12.

In addition, Brevard Music Center's opera workshop will perform six staged productions, including "Kiss Me Kate," "The Merry Wives of Windsor" and "Madame Butterfly."

For a complete schedule of the Brevard Music Center's line up, contact the center at P.O. Box 592, Brevard, NC 28712. Phone: (704) 884-2019.

State's Sports History Outlined In New Book

A new book tracing the evolution of sports in North Carolina is available by the mail from the Division of Archives and History.

A History of Sports in North Carolina is a 119-page softcover book that covers sports in the state from colonial times to 1988.

Written by Jim L. Sumner, the book includes 50 photos illustrating many of the state's popular sports activities.

The book is available by the mail for $8, including postage. To order, mail a check to: Historical Publications Section (N), Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601.

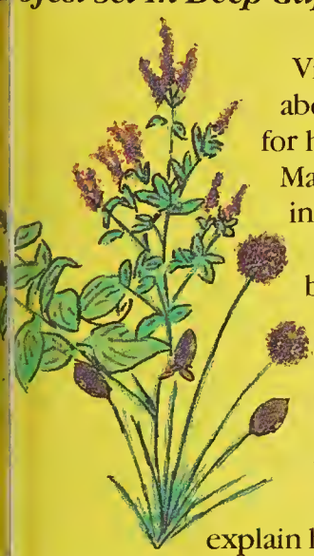
"Elizabeth's Bard" Weekend Planned

Shakespeare lovers can get two days chocked full of the entertainment during "Elizabeth's Bard" weekend, Aug. 18-19, at the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival in High Point.

The weekend will include accommodations and meals, along with guest speakers and performances of Shakespeare's "Hamlet" and Richard Brinley Sheridan's "The School of Scandal."

For a detailed brochure on the event, call the N.C. Shakespeare Festival at (919) 841-6273.

bfest Set In Deep Gap



Visitors can learn about the many uses for herbs at Herbfest, May 26, at Deep Gap in Watauga County.

The event will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. at Goldenrod Mountain Herbs eight miles east of Boone. Participants will have a chance to hear speakers explain how to use herbs in cosmetics, dyes and in other ways.

r more information on the event, contact e Nadeau at (704) 264-2683.

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HERE, THERE & EVERYWHERE

Blue Ridge Fair Slated In Sparta

A full day of food, crafts and music will be in store for visitors to the 14th Annual Blue Ridge Mountain Fair Craft Festival, June 30, in Sparta.

For more information on the event, write to the fair at P.O. Box 962, Sparta, NC 28675.

Walking Canes Saluted In Exhibition

The walking cane will be saluted in an exhibit at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art (SECCA) in Winston-Salem.

Entitled, "Sticks," the exhibit will run through June 17 and feature more than 130 pieces examining the various social aspects of the walking cane.

Sponsored by the Humana Foundation and the Kentucky Arts Council, the exhibit will show walking canes as weapons, status symbols, commemorative items as well as aids for walking.

For more information about the ex contact SECCA a 750 Marguerite Winston-Salem, 27106. Phone: (919) 725-1904.

New Directors Named At Two EMCs

Two North Carolina Electric Member Corporations have appointed new directo their Boards of Directors as a result of rec retirements:

- Gary T. Wilde of Weaverville has be named to the board of French Broad EMC, shall. He succeeds W. G. Plemmons of Rt. cester, who retired after serving on the bo for the past 17 years.
- R. G. Wadsworth Jr. of Carthage ha appointed to the Board of Directors at Ce EMC, Sanford.

Wadsworth succeeds William B. Huls of Rt. 2, Carthage, who recently retired fro board after 15 years of service.

A technician with the Soil Conservati Service, Wadsworth also operates a family in Moore County. In 1986, he received the Moore County Conservation Farm Family Year award.

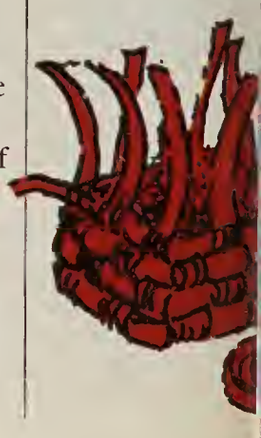
Craft Fairs Slated In Boone

Blue Ridge Hearthside in Boone will host four craft fairs in the months ahead.

The shows will be held at the Pavilion, next to the Blue Ridge Hearthside shop on Highway 105, south of Boone.

Show dates are: June 22-24, July 20-22, August 17-19 and October 12-14. Show times are 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day.

Admission to show is $2. For information, call Ridge Hearthside (704) 963-5252



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lartin County Native Takes NCREA Post

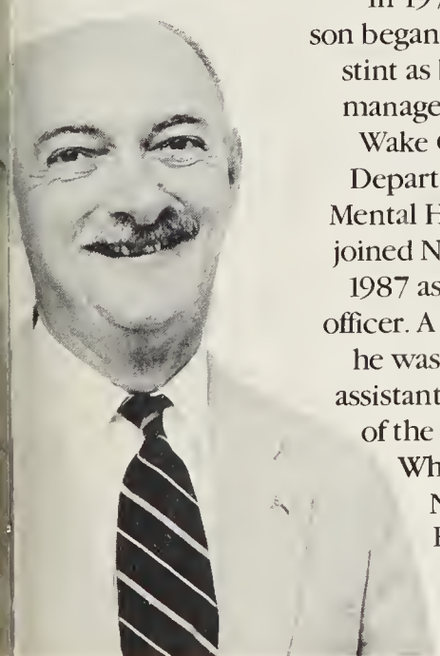
A Martin County native has been named nistrator of the North Carolina Rural Elec- ation Authority (NCREA).

Everett Roberson, who for the past two has been assistant director of the North lina Technological Development Authority TDA), succeeds Aaron (Arch) Hathcock. Hathcock, a former aide to Fourth District Ike Andrews, retired in December after years in the NCREA post. Earlier in his r, he worked for two Tar Heel electric s and for the co-ops' statewide organi- n.

The agency, which is part of the North Caro- Department of Economic and Community lopment, oversees some activities of the s 28 Electric Membership Corporations Cs) and nine Telephone Membership orations.

NCREA reviews loan proposals from the co-ops before they are forwarded to the Electrification Administration, a federal cy that provides financing for electric and hone cooperatives.

Born in Robersonville, the 55-year-old rson is a business graduate of East Carolina ersity and worked for eight years with the ral Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) irst Citizens Bank & Trust Company.



In 1973, Roberson began a 13-year stint as business manager for the Wake County Department of Mental Health. He joined NCTDA in 1987 as finance officer. A year later, he was named assistant director of the agency.

While at the NCTDA, Roberson helped worthy innovative businesses—many of them in rural areas—obtain funds and other aid. Last year, Roberson helped Brunswick EMC, Shallotte, secure a $200,000 grant from NCTDA to build a business incubator in Columbus County to serve new and start-up businesses.

He also helped Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir, join other organizations in establishing a business incubator in Watauga County.

Roberson Spent Three Years Working Just Down The Hall From The Agency's Office

Everett Roberson had no problem finding his new office when he showed up for his first day as the new administrator of the North Carolina Rural Electrification Authority (NCREA).

He'd spent the past three years working just 15 feet down the hall on the staff of the North Carolina Technological Development Authority (NCTDA).

Still, in that Dobbs Building office, Roberson never thought about working for the NCREA, the state agency that reviews loan applications and oversees activities of the state's electric and telephone co-ops.

As assistant director of the NCTDA, Roberson had some dealings with electric co-ops, but didn't become interested in the job until the idea was suggested by retiring administrator Aaron (Arch) Hathcock.

"We went out for lunch just before Arch retired, and the more we talked about the job at NCREA, the more I became interested," Roberson said. "Finally, Arch said, 'Why don't you apply for it?' "

He did and moved into the new office March 1.

Roberson has spent the past three years helping innovative businesses through his work with the NCTDA, and hopes to continue helping co-ops with their efforts to promote economic development.

"There's a lot of money out there meant to help people, but people just don't know about," he said. "I hope, through my contacts, I can work in partnership with the state's co-ops to boost economic development in rural areas."

Already, Roberson has used his contacts to assist his own agency. When he arrived, the NCREA had no computers and no budget for them. Roberson went to work quickly and was able to secure the use of two computers that another state agency no longer needed.

"They're not state-of-the-art as far as computers go. But we're happy to have them."

With a staff of two, NCREA is one of the smallest agencies in state government. That doesn't concern Roberson. However, it has made his first few months rather hectic—as he's taken a crash course on the names and faces of the many people who are involved in the various cooperatives across the state.

"Since I've been here, one of the biggest challenges I've had is learning the names and faces of the people at all the co-ops in North Carolina," he said. "That's a big task."

Photo and stories by Randy Wheeless.

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For A Heart Attack Your benefits increase each day you're hospitalized for a heart attack (acute myocardial infarction).	$3,375.00 A Month Plus $112.50 A Day	$2,250 A Mo $75. A Da
For Cancer Your benefits automatically increase every day you are in the hospital for the treatment of cancer.	$3,375.00 A Month Plus $112.50 A Day	$2,250 A Mo $75. A Da
For Husband-Wife Accidents When you and your insured spouse are hospitalized at the same time due to injuries, you'll each receive DOUBLE hospital benefits in addition to regular home care benefits.	$9,000.00 A Month Plus $300.00 A Day	$2,250 A Mo $75. A Da

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e Note These Limitations
alth problems (those that became evident or were treated before the ve date of your policy) are not covered for the first year of your policy. ce that year is up, even a health problem you've had for years is covered! *ou are 65 and over you will* be covered for cancer, heart attack, stroke, , disease or disorder of the prostate, tuberculosis, cataracts, sema, cirrhosis or diabetes if your hospital confinement commences han six months after the effective date of your policy.
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One-Parent (you and all eligible children)	35.75	38.50

OPTION B: Pays $1,500.00 a month—$50.00 a day for hospitalization, and $750.00 a month—$25.00 a day for home confinement

Plan	39 & Under (use age of principal insured)	40 & Over (use age of principal insured)
Individual (you only)	$17.95	$19.95
Husband-Wife (you and your spouse)	34.35	38.05
All-Family (you, your spouse and all eligible children)	41.15	44.85
One-Parent (you and all eligible children)	24.75	26.75

OPTION C: Pays $900.00 a month—$30.00 a day for hospitalization, and $450.00 a month—$15.00 a day for home confinement

Plan	39 & Under (use age of principal insured)	40 & Over (use age of principal insured)
Individual (you only)	$11.55	$12.95
Husband-Wife (you and your spouse)	22.35	25.05
All-Family (you, your spouse and all eligible children)	26.75	29.45
One-Parent (you and all eligible children)	15.95	17.35

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CITY STATE ZIP

ONE NO. _____ SEX (Check one) Male ☐ Female ☐

E OF BIRTH _____ AGE _____

closed my first month's premium of $1.00. I understand the policy is n force until issued and benefits will not be paid for old health problems ss confinement begins one year after issue date.

NED X _____ DATE _____
E-500-1 Insured's Signature—Do Not Print 503/502/501-4929NC

Choose The Plan You Want (check one)
☐ Individual Plan 4 ☐ Husband-Wife Plan 3 ☐ All-Family Plan 1 ☐ One-Parent Plan 2

Select Option You Prefer (check one)

☐ OPTION A	☐ OPTION B	☐ OPTION C
Pays $2,250.00 a month ($75.00 a day) for hospitalization, $1,125.00 a month ($37.50 a day) for home confinement	Pays $1,500.00 a month ($50.00 a day) for hospitalization, $750.00 a month ($25.00 a day) for home confinement.	Pays $900.00 a month ($30.00 a day) for hospitalization, $450.00 a month ($15.00 a day) for home confinement
42713-503	42713-502	42713-501

Information About Your Spouse—(complete if you have chosen the Husband-Wife or All-Family Plan)

SPOUSE'S NAME _____
First Middle Initial Last

DATE OF BIRTH _____ SEX _____

COUNTRY KITCHEN

Tar-Heel Tater-Salad

Submitted by Ms. Susanne Millhof, Snow Camp

1 5-lb. bag potatoes, boiled, peeled, cooled and diced
2 large apples, diced
8 sweet pickles, chopped
1 can pineapple, chopped
1 onion, chopped
1 cup celery, diced
2 chicken breasts, skinned, boiled and diced in small pieces
Mayonnaise and sour cream (amount you prefer for consistency)

Mix all ingredients. Set in refrigerator for about two hours. Add garnish and serve.

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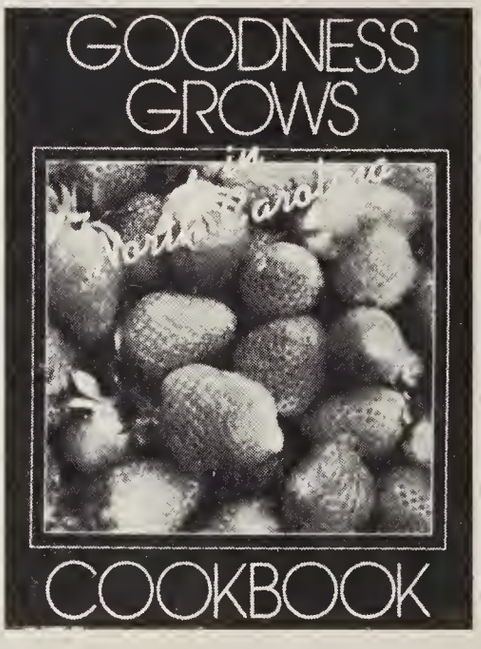

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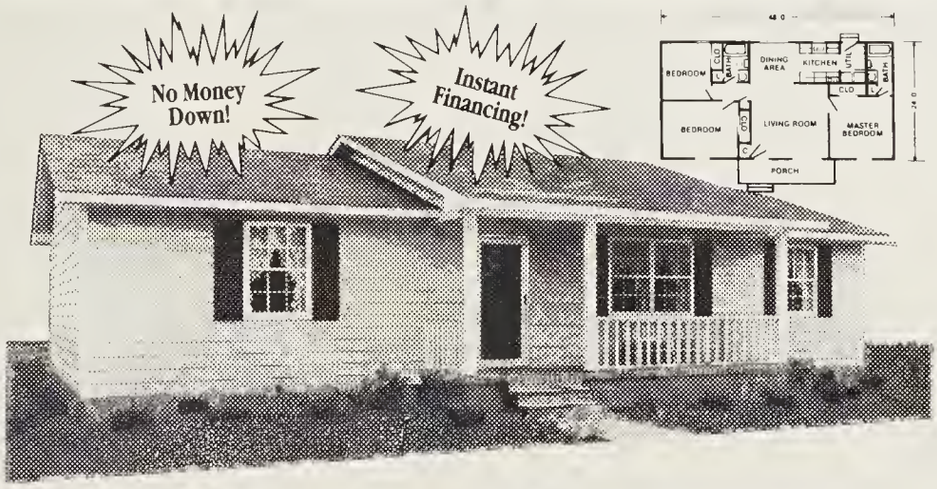

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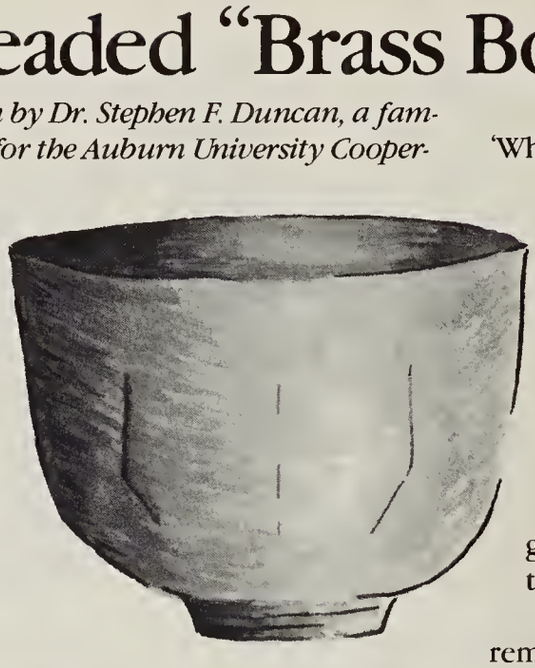
Avoid The Dreaded "Brass Bowl Syndrome

The following column was written by Dr. Stephen F. Duncan, a family and human development specialist for the Auburn University Cooperative Extension Service. It is reprinted from Alabama Living, *the statewide rural electric publication for Alabama.*



My bride-to-be and I tightly held hands as we sat together in the home of our religious leader. Barbara and I were there for the first of a series of "engagement" chats.

The religious leader left the room for a moment and returned with a beautifully polished brass bowl. He said, "I want to tell you a little story about this brass bowl." The story went something like this:

"I returned home from work one evening and greeted my wife with a hug and a kiss at the front door. From where I stood, I thought I could see some smudges on the brass bowl sitting on the mantel. I walked over to the mantel and picked up the bowl. It was smudged. I held the bowl out to my wife and declared, 'This brass bowl needs cleaning.' Then I set the bowl back down again and started into the den.

"I stopped walking when I thought I heard my wife laughing. I turned around to find her lying on the couch, laughing with glee.

"My inquiry into why she was laughing only made her laugh more hysterically.

"This went on for some time. I wonder 'What did I say?' Finally I blurted 'What are laughing about?' As she got control of self, she said, 'Look around you!' I d look around. I noticed that the e house was immaculate. Not o thing was out of place. Ins of noticing this first, I h chosen to pay attention to one housekeeping flaw in the entire house, the smudged bras bowl. And I knew that my wife wasn't going to put up long with an attitude lik that!"

That experience is now humorously remembered. But at the time, the "brass bo syndrome" didn't do much for their marital health. Anyone, married or not, can becom infected by this dread syndrome.

If we focus on the imperfections of oth ignoring positive traits, or if we focus on mi takes others make instead of their successes may be suffering from the "brass bowl syndrome," or BBS. BBS can destroy relationsh

What can be done to "vaccinate" again BBS? Research suggests that high quality re tionships develop through the sharing of lar doses of "positive sentiments," or positive thoughts, attitudes and feelings toward one another.

These can take the form of unexpecte love notes in lunchboxes or briefcases, prai at least one thing each day about each famil member, or complimenting a coworker on job well done. You can think of many other The results can truly be infectious.

A Good Bag Lunch: 'Heavy and Solid'

Raz Autry of Raeford is a retired school superintendent, a peach farmer, a Soil and Water District supervisor and a dandy auctioneer. And quite a storyteller.

He once told this Depression era story in his regular column in the Raeford *News-Journal:* In the 1930s, this man was out of work but finally got a regular but low-paying job. To help make ends meet, his wife would fix him a brown-bag lunch. And every day for weeks she could provide him with only a cold baked sweet potato and a biscuit.

With this modest lunch, the man usually went around the corner at noon when the workers took their lunch break. He would eat the sweet potato and biscuit, fold the brown bag, put it in his pocket, and then join the others. He knew their lunches were far better than his.

One day he yielded to temptation. Several of the men had put their brown bags on a shelf, and he decided to pick up the "wrong" one and enjoy that good lunch. He grabbed it and snuck around the corner, thinking, "This will be a good lunch. It feels heavy and solid."

When he opened the stolen bag, he found that he had swiped five black walnuts—and a large rock. He got back to the group just in time to see one of the other fellows enjoying his sweet potato and biscuit.

—Frank Jeter

It's The Law

Now all of us expect that when a la is passed it's serious business. Right?

Not necessarily so. Take this Kansas state statute for example: "When two tra approach each other at a crossing, they shall both come to a full stop, and neithe shall start up until the other has gone."

See what I mean folks, things aren't always what they seem!

—Larry Cr
Living In South Caroli

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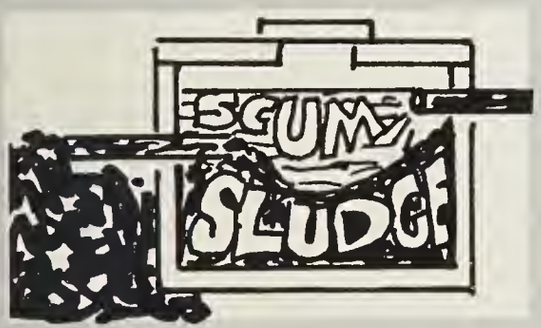
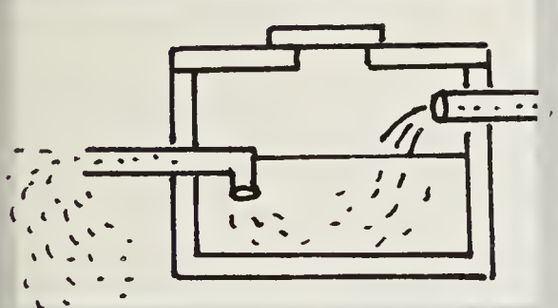


Septic Tank After



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NCEMC Expanding Power Supply Resource

Part I

North Carolina's rural electric cooperatives are taking bold steps to assure that they will have adequate supplies of reasonably-priced power in the years ahead. The effort is being led by the co-ops' statewide power supply organization, North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC).

In this article, NCEMC Executive Vice President Wayne D. Keller explains how these steps are designed to fit into the co-op program's long range plans for providing electricity for the state's rural areas at the lowest possible cost.

The article is the first installment of a two-part series examining NCEMC's strategies for providing safe and reliable sources of electricity for the EMCs and their consumer-members.

North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC), w provides power for the state's electric cooperatives, is moving expand its limited power supply resources while also trying to assu that its generation facilities are used to maximum advantage.

The statewide rural electric program is taking these aggressiv steps in an effort to establish greater control over their power supp resources after a half-century of relying on other suppliers in orde provide basic electric service for rural Tar Heels, according to Way Keller, NCEMC executive vice president.

"We charted a course in this direction many years ago when v recognized that we had to find a way to stand on our own feet in t area of power supply if we were going to assure that we'd have ac to reliable, reasonably-priced power in the future," he said.

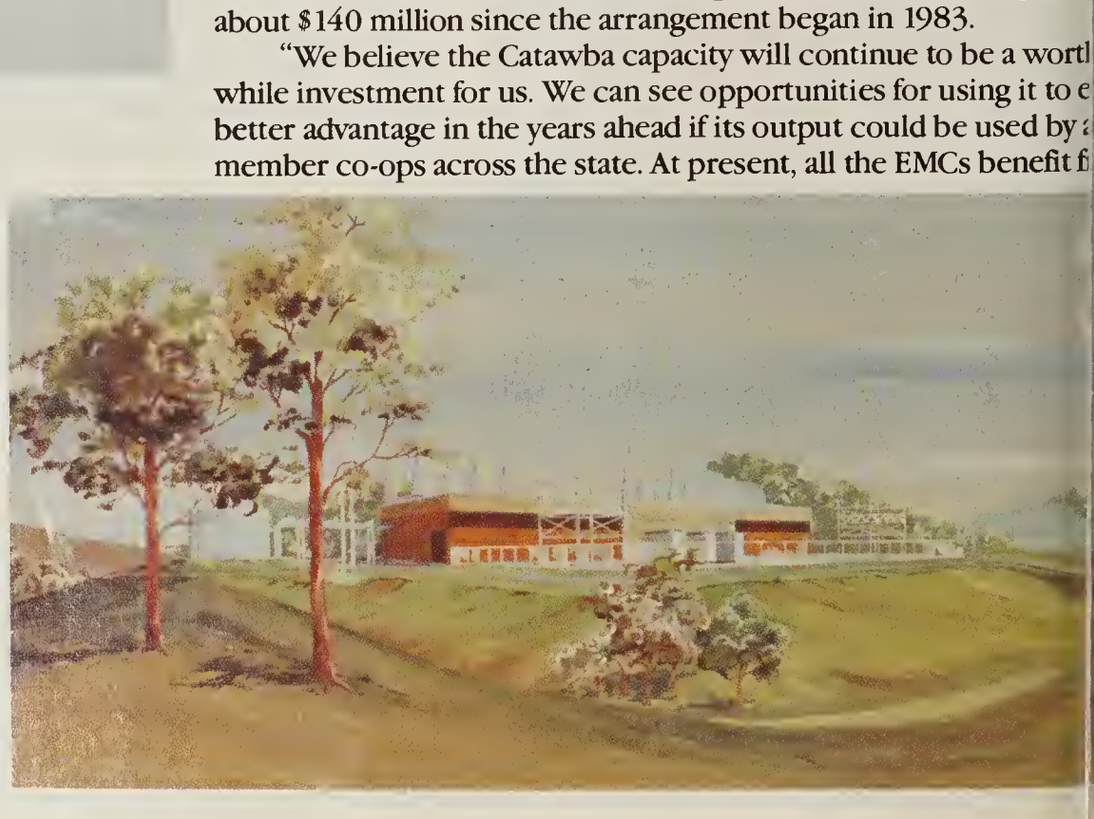
The state's 28 Electric Membership Corporations (EMCs) joi together through NCEMC to deveop plans for their own generatin and transmission system. When those efforts hit snags, the co-ops began negotiating with the investor-owned utilities about buying their generating facilities.

"In order to become masters of our own destiny, we felt we h become partners with these companies instead of being their capt customers, entirely dependent on them for our supply of electricit period of spiraling power costs," Keller said.

These negotiations led to a joint venture arrangement with D Power Company and other utilities that gave NCEMC ownership 644 megawatts (MW) of capacity in the Catawba Nuclear Plant in County, SC.

Keller said NCEMC's Catawba capacity has saved the organiza about $140 million since the arrangement began in 1983.

"We believe the Catawba capacity will continue to be a wortl while investment for us. We can see opportunities for using it to e better advantage in the years ahead if its output could be used by member co-ops across the state. At present, all the EMCs benefit f



NCEMC's proposed 30-megawatt Deep Gap generating plant would operate no more than 340 hours a year to provide power during periods of peak demand for electricity. By operating plants of this sort, NCEMC can drastically reduce the cost of peaking power. The plant has already qualified for an air quality permit from the North Carolina Division of Environmental Management. Approvals are still being sought from the State Utilities Commission and the Rural Electrification Administration.

Catawba capacity but the power is used only in the Duke Power ice area."

Both Duke and NCEMC are now planning to build new generating ts to provide power during peak demand periods. Duke plans a gas ine peaking plant in Lincoln County while NCEMC has plans for el projects on the Outer Banks and the Deep Gap community of uga County.

NCEMC is already building a five-unit, 15-MW peaking plant in ton and a one-unit, 3-MW plant in Ocracoke. It is seeking final oval for its proposed 10-unit, 30-MW Deep Gap facility.

"The critical point here is that peaking plants are designed and especially to operate for brief periods as demand for power hes a peak. Catawba, on the other hand, was designed and built to e fairly consistent loads on an around-the-clock basis."

e said "base load" plants like Catawba are intended to be used at or near full power all the time. As demand grows beyond the city of these plants, other types of plants are brought on-line. rmediate" units are added first, then the "peaking" units.

Nuclear plants and the most efficient coal plants are used for base applications while less efficient coal plants are used for inter- iate loads. Diesel, hydroelectric and gas turbine plants are used for loads.

"The cost of power from these various types of plants determines they're used in a utility's day-to-day operations," Keller said, point- ut that the ultimate price cover the investment ired to build the plant as as the cost of fuel and r operating expenses.

Base load plants are as much as possible use they're expensive to but use low-cost fuel. mediate and peaking s are less costly to build perate with high-cost

Last year, the co-ops' total load reached up to 1,900 megawatts during peak demand periods. We can meet that peak demand only by buying costly power from other suppliers. If we generate that peaking power ourselves, we can trim its cost substantially.

"If Catawba energy used for peaking purposes, the cost per kilowatt-hour would go emendously because of the higher investment required to build plant," Keller said. "We calculate that the Catawba power would us about four times as much as we'd pay for power from the Deep plant.

"These figures show why utilities routinely use different types of s to meet various types of loads. It's purely a matter of economics. tunately, NCEMC is not yet in a position to apply its Catawba city based on the most economical use of the energy. We hope ill soon change."

While NCEMC is seeking ways to take better advantage of its Catawba power, the co-op organization is also trying to clear final regulatory hurdles required to break ground for the Deep Gap peaking plant.

The facility has already received an air quality permit from the State Division of Environmental Management but still needs approvals from the North Carolina Utilities Commission and the Rural Electrification Administration (REA).

"By approving the Outer Banks plants, the regulatory agencies have already accepted the concept that NCEMC will need peaking capacity in the next few years. I honestly believe they will also accept the need for such a facility in the mountain region," Keller said.

"Across the state, the co-ops serve about 550,000 homes and businesses and that load is growing. Last year, the co-ops' total load reached up to 1,900 MW during peak demand periods. We can meet that peak demand only by buying costly power from other suppliers. If we generate that peaking power ourselves, we can trim its cost substantially."

The peaking facilities on the Outer Banks and at Deep Gap are the first of several such plants NCEMC proposes to build throughout the state.

These plants, along with the efforts to use Catawba capacity to best advantage, stem from the organization's long-range strategy for providing its member co-ops with adequate power at reasonable cost while reducing its dependence on other suppliers, Keller pointed out.

"NCEMC is moving quickly to become a full-fledged generation and transmission cooperative. It's been a leader in promoting load management for years and it's now among the industry's leaders in looking to peaking plants to meet near-term power supply needs.

"We still have miles to go but I'm convinced we're headed in the right direction."

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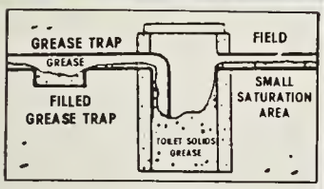

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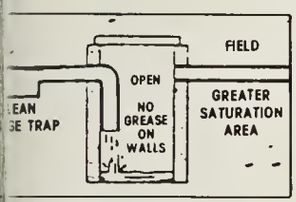

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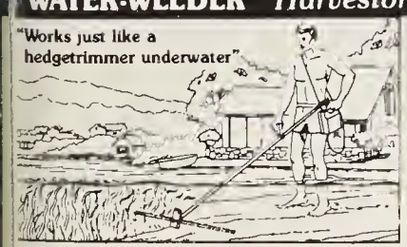

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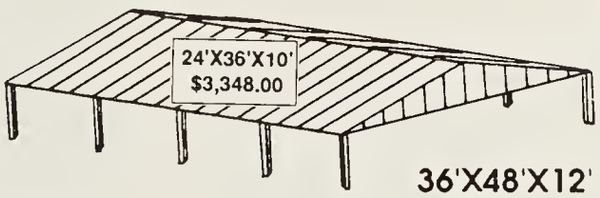

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Forest Resources Camp Is Slated For July 15-20

Applications are now being accepted for the North Carolina Forest Resources Camp, July 15-20, at the Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center near Reidsville.

About 100 high school students, ages 15-18, will attend the camp, which is designed to help campers expand their environmental awareness and appreciation for forests.

One session will focus on endangered species habitat, the role of the national forests, wetlands, harvesting methods and management practices.

Sponsored by the North Carolina Forestry Association, the camp will feature numerous outdoor activities for campers—from canoeing to horseback riding.

Registration for the camp is $60, which includes food, recreation and lodging. For an application, write or call the N. C. Forestry Association at P.O. Box 12825, Raleigh, NC 27605. Phone: (919) 834-3943.

Annual Meetings Calendar

Date	Electric Membership Corporation	Time	Location
May			
19	Halifax, Enfield	Registration: 9:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 11:00 a.m.	Enfield Middle Schoo Enfield
June			
8	Randolph, Asheboro	Registration: 6:30 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.	Southwest Randolph High School, 6 miles southwest of Asheb
9	Blue Ridge, Lenoir	Registration: 8:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 9:30 a.m.	Farthing Auditorium Appalachian State University, Boone

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Benefit Auction Will Feature Items From Home Of 'Aunt Bee'

Items from the Siler City home of the late Frances ("Aunt Bee") Bavier will be sold during a public auction June 1-2 to benefit North Carolina Center for Public Television.

Bavier, who was best known for her role on the "Andy Griffith Show," moved to Siler City when she retired after a long theatrical career. She was a strong supporter of the state's public television system. Her support was translated into a provision of her will leaving the contents of her home to the network.

See related item, page 31

The Emmy she won for her role as "Aunt Bee" will remain on permanent display at the Joseph and Kathleen Bryan Communications Center at Research Triangle Park, but items to be sold include the actress' 1966 Studebaker Daytona, furniture, unique laces, memorabilia that chronicle her career and rare books and magazines.

Auction events have been scheduled at the Jane S. McKimmon Center at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. The June 1 preview party is set for 7 to 9 p.m. Tickets are $25 each, including a $10 contribution to Center for Public Television.

A public tag sale will begin June 2 at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 12 noon. The public auction is slated for 2 p.m. All purchases must be by cash or check.

For more information about the auction, call (919) 549-7297.

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HANK'S GARDENING GUIDE

Take full advantage of the few cool days, as well as early mornings and late afternoons—times in which to complete spring plantings of summer annuals, bulbs and vegetables. Newly set plants will benefit from a few days of shade while they become adjusted.

Carefully inspect trees, shrubs and lawn grasses for signs of insect damage. Keep a watchful eye for bagworms, thrips, whiteflies, chinch bugs, lacebugs and spider mites. Don't overlook blackspot and powdery mildew on roses.

Flower Pruning

Now's the time to clip off faded flower heads of thrift, candytuft, scabiosa, snow-in-summer, rudbeckia, dianthus, digitalis and delphinium.

It's advisable to keep faded seed-forming blooms cut from all annuals and perennials. This diverts energy into the growing plant and makes for the production of more flowers rather than helping the plant "go to seed."

Chlorosis Of Roses And Azaleas

A yellowish discoloration of leaves on roses and azaleas probably indicates plants are deficient in iron (chlorotic.) Veins of leaves remain green, but the tissue between the veins fades to a yellow color. To correct the condition, feed plants with a chelated material (usually iron chelate.) Or, apply by spraying the phelated material on the foliage.

In a few days the foliage will snap back to a good green color.

Summer Cultivation

Newly-set plants should have a generous circle of cultivated soil around them in order to keep grass and weeds from competing for moisture. A shallow soil depression in which water can be poured when drought threatens will help. In some ways a soil covering or mulch around these new plants is even better than cultivation. Sometimes both mulch and the soil depression are used.

Even with heavily mulched plants, it is helpful to apply water during exceptionally long dry periods.

Flowering and foliage plants growing in window boxes and pots dry out much more quickly than those growing in garden soil. They need more frequent waterings. In many cases, this means watering each day.

A good source of color interest is to hang baskets of shade-loving annuals from low branches of shade trees. These can be watered by spraying with the garden hose.

Say It With Salvia

The eye-catching flame-red spikes of little florets make salvia one of our most showy flowers for planting behind low-growing annuals. Salvias flower through most of the summer if old flower heads are periodically trimmed. It prefers well-drained soil in full sun.

One of the most striking combinations for the summer landscape is red salvia based with white candidum caladiums. The salvia supplies just enough broken shade for the caladiums

Although they'r lesser known, the are salvias in man shades of blue an purple. Occasion white salvia will appear in a planti Dwarf salvias are available.

Clip, Don't Chew, Grass

Remember tha your lawn mowe should cut the gr not tear it. Exami blade of newly m grass. If it has a ja or torn end, the mower blade nee sharpening.

Also remembe water deeply if y water during dry ods. A light wate encourages roots surface, where th can be severely d aged by hot sun wind.

Keep On The A

During summ months, keep a v ful eye on landsc plants—be ever the alert for the appearance of in and diseases. Wh trouble appears, plants should be sprayed or duste with the recom- mended materia Weeds should b trolled in flower shrubbery beds. good mulch will a great deal in k them down.

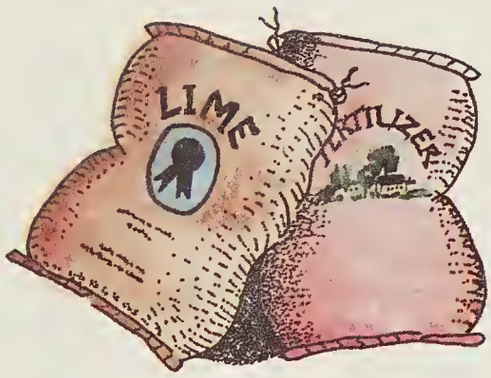
Time To Plant Vegetables

If you've delayed setting out tender eggplant, sweet and hot pepper plants, set them out now. Also plant seed of cucumber, cantaloupe, okra, squash, both bush and pole lima beans, snapbeans, corn and New Zealand spinach.

When you thin leafy vegetables such as turnip, kale or beets, use the tops for greens. If space allows, you can plant some of the extra beet plants in rows. Space them three to four inches apart.

Just as with lawn watering, frequent light watering seldom is beneficial to the vegetable garden. Often it does harm. During dry spells, soak the ground thoroughly; then water again when the soil is dry. When plants are small, one inch of water per week may be enough. When plants are larger, they may need as much as two inches per week.

By Hank Smith



'ertilizer Rates

Fertilizer recommendations usually call for so many pounds er acre. This often confuses those who wish to apply fertilizer to smaller area of ground. This table is helpful in clarifying this onfusing point.

Acre	1,000 square feet	100 square feet
100 lbs.	2 1/3 lbs.	4 ozs.
200 lbs.	4 2/3 lbs.	8 ozs.
400 lbs.	9 1/3 lbs.	15 ozs.
600 lbs.	14 lbs.	1 1/3 lbs.
800 lbs.	18 2/3 lbs.	1 7/8 lbs.
1,000 lbs.	23 1/3 lbs.	2 1/3 lbs.

k Shrubs For Damage

t winter's cold vere freezes d damage to shrubs, and its ty is just now ng up.

heck for cold ge, scratch the nd look for f life under- Healthy wood green and beneath the Dead wood is , tan or black oks dry.

back obviously ood to live or to healthy side shoots just beginning to emerge down the stem. Severely damaged plants may take two seasons to grow back to normal.

A good pair of pruning shears is a wise investment.

Bedding Plants

Continue to sow seeds of balsam, coleus, gourds, morning glory, portulaca, cosmos, marigold, zinnia, four-o-clock and sunflowers. Summer-flowering bulbs and tubers also may still be planted.

Summer Pruning

If you want bushy, well-shaped plants that will bloom profusely, try summer pruning. This means pruning shrubs as they grow. Prune by pinching out the growing tips. This causes the production of several vigorous new shoots. Before the end of June, summer prune abelia, forsythia, all the privets, mock orange, althea, deutzia, bush winter honeysuckle, weigelia and euonymus.

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When One Banking Partner Dies

Agreement Clears Access To Joint Accou

Married couples in North Carolina can now take steps to assure that either the husband or wife will have access to all the money in a shared joint checking account when one spouse dies.

The mechanism was established by the 1989 North Carolina General Assembly to address a common banking practice that ties up half of such funds at the death of one of the account's partners.

The situation often poses a problem for the survivor in paying necessary expenses from the account.

Here's how it works: Say a husband and wife have a joint account with $6,000 on deposit. When one spouse dies, the survivor can still write checks or make withdrawals on the account—but only up to $3,000. The limit applies until the estate of the deceased is probated and approved.

Many consumers believe they've avoided the problem by having their joint account listed in the two names and linking them with "or" or "and." It doesn't work because the wording doesn't establish what lawyers call a "tenancy in common," which would give either account holder access to all funds on deposit.

Under the new law adopted last year, this problem can be avoided when the joint account holders sign a "Joint Account Agreement" with their bank, savings and loan or credit union.

The form's typical language will run like this:

"We understand that by establishing a joint account under the provisions of North Carolina General Statute 53-146 that:

"(Name of bank) may pay the money in the account to, or on the order of, any person named in the account unless we have agreed with the bank that withdrawals require more than one signature, and

"If we elect to create the right of survivorship in the account, that upon the death of one joint owner the money remaining in the account will belong to the surviving joint owners and will not be inherited by the heirs of the deceased joint owner or be controlled by the deceased joint owner's will."

Space is provided for signatures and date. The card is filed with the bank or o financial institution, which will keep the ment in bank records. The principal sum the account will be available to the survi survivors.

While most such accounts will dou involve people who are married to each other, the law affects any joint account. parents share accounts with their childr other relatives; a business partnership m well have one or more join accounts shared by partne are not related to each oth

All joint accounts are covered. And since money times runs short when son dies, the new law is an exc idea for most folks.

The State of Virginia, several other states in the have had similar laws for y Results have been very fav

What kind of account covered. Any kind. This w include not only the famili checking and savings acco but also certificates of dep money market accounts a others. It should be noted separate card must be sig each certificate of deposit

There is one notable exception un new law: Safety deposit boxes are *not* included. Even when a safety box is joi held, the box will be locked by the ban other institution upon the death of one The surviving owner or estate executo make arrangements with the Clerk of S Court to open the box, take an invento comply with provisions regarding estat North Carolina. The box may be opene after an executor has met the qualificat

ongress Asked To ise REA Funding

ongress has been asked to increase the
nt of loans available from the Rural Electrifi-
Administration (REA) to meet the rising
needs of rural electric cooperatives and
e a growing loan application backlog.
he request came from Bob Bergland,
tive vice president of the National Rural
c Cooperative Association (NRECA),
peared before the House Appropriations
mmittee on Rural Development, Agricul-
d Related Agencies. He noted that hope
provements in the rural economy is
ed in the number of loan applications
ral electric systems across the nation.
Rising demand and the need to eliminate
0 million backlog of loans at REA make it
al" that more money be available to the
, Bergland said. "In some cases, rural
s are waiting up to a year for loans, funds
uld contribute significantly to reviving
ral economies."

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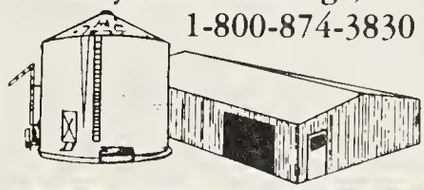

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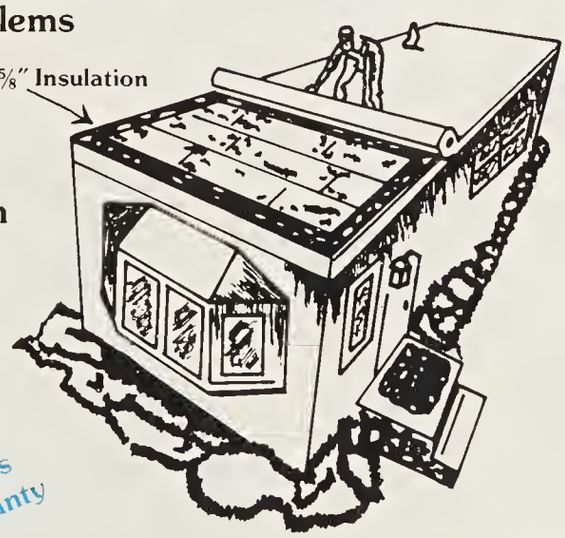

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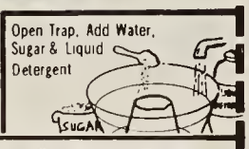
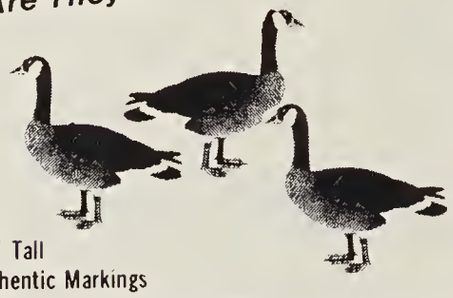


"Are They Real"?



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BOOKS

A Visitation Of Spirits, by Randall Ken
Grove Press. New York. 257 pages. $16.95.

The story of the Cross family that Ran
Kenan tells in *A Visitation of Spirits* is a fan
one to residents of rural North Carolina.

The Crosses recount tales of ancestor
who struggled to hold onto their land. The
remember the way tobacco cropping or a
killing could bind a community together, a
they have trouble accepting their children'
friendships with people from outside their
racial and geographic group.

Though they are filled with pride by t
accomplishments of a younger generation,
recognize that all too often the path to suc
means leaving Tims Creek to go up North.

The Cross family's experience is com
cated by their race. They are the leading bl
family in the community, descendants of sl
belonging to the founding fathers of York
County and Crosstown.

However, the novel is not mainly abou
being black. Rather, it focuses on being dif
ferent—a universal theme.

The community values and strong mo
standards encouraged by the church—wh
gave an older generation strength to cope
prove stifling to people who don't fit in.

As he enters adolescence, Horace Cr
straight-A student and pride of his family,
his interest in books sets him apart from h
peers. Frightened by his sexuality, he seek
from his cousin Jimmy, the only educated
member of his generation to stay in the ho
community. But Jimmy can't help Horace
cile church teachings with his feelings.

Turning in desperation to the occult,
Horace decides to transform himself into
with spells from the books he has read. Th
sequences of his attempt and their impact
the members of the community form the
for *A Visitation of Spirits.*

Author Randall Kenan, who grew up
Chinquapin, now lives in New York, whe
is an assistant editor and a teacher of crea
writing at Sarah Lawrence College.

His love for the woods and swamps
Carolina Coast permeate the book. Those

BOOKS

th the area can place almost every field and restaurant as he describes to Fayetteville.

One of the most illuminating and ironic scenes in the book comes Horace is working in an outdoor drama in Crosstown about the ibutions of the illustrious white Cross family to the cause of freedom. e and Antonio, an actor from Brooklyn, are discussing the play when io finally makes the connection.

That's your . . . family too, isn't it?" he asks. When Horace admits to lationship, Antonio assumes the play must make Horace angry. Horace concedes, "Yeah. Kind of. But . . . I don't know. It's funny. I'm f proud, too. You know. Not about the slavery stuff, but to know we've gotten. . . ."

enan's view of "where we've gotten" is bittersweet indeed. For gain there is loss, but readers will find this book compelling and t-provoking.

—Phyllis Hacken Johnson

---

ke The Moon by Mary Lewis Deans. Flatrock Books. Rocky Mount. ges. $7.95.

---

stern North Carolina novelist Mary Lewis Deans dishes up a hearty of rural life in *Like the Moon,* published by Flatrock Books of Mount.

e characters she skillfully fashions are hard-working, decent folks ow how to laugh at themselves, while never forgetting how to help her through the rough times—and there are plenty of rough times County, North Carolina.

rough the eyes of chatty Lulu Quillen, a woman who works the ift at a convenience store in order to keep the franchise, the reader ed to a smorgasbord of emotions, straight talk, gossip and memories. ver selling cakes at the old-fashioned "curb market," killing s, hauling cucumbers and sightseeing in a Winnebago.

e main story spins its threads from the sudden death of Willis Bone. unting with his friends, Red Quillen (Lulu's husband) and Grover he suffers a heart attack from the excitement of seeing a legendary . After his death, his friends and family must sort through moun- his bizarre belongings while also sorting through their own lives tionships with each other.

ading *Like the Moon* is as enjoyable as spending an afternoon with iend. If any fault were to be found, it would be Lulu's penchant for g a person's name over and over in the same paragraph. This omplaint doesn't spoil the novel's overall charm.

e book is a sweet and sentimental confection, rolled in equal parts sness and humor, then deep fried in North Carolina dialect.

e the Moon is available for $8.35, including tax and shipping, from Books, 15 Goose Creek, Rocky Mount, NC 27804. Phone: 46-9508.

—Anita M. Wheeless

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Ad Council

By Owen

Special Remembrance: 'A Wonderful Surpris

If you're looking for a graduation gift for a friend or relative, you need no reminder that commencement season is now upon us. Whether the graduates are leaving high school or college, they certainly deserve an enthusiastic pat on the back for their achievements. But it can be difficult to come up with just the right remembrance for such a special occasion.

How many times have you struggled with this dilemma as you've searched in vain for a meaningful way to offer congratulations? How many times have you had to settle for an item that "would do" even though it fell far short of adequately expressing your good wishes?

Having been in that spot a number of times, I was intrigued to learn about an especially clever graduation gift a Watauga County couple presented to their daughter when she finished college last May.

The graduate was Tina Moretz, who received a degree in nursing from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNC-G). She's now a nurse at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem.

Her parents are Jerry and Nancy Moretz. Jerry is office services supervisor at Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation's Watauga District Office.

The gift: A block quilt Nancy made, with each block depicting activities or special events in Tina's life.

"It was a wonderful surprise!" Tina said. "It brought back so many memories."

She never expected anything of this sort because her mother had never created images for a quilt before, although Nancy had stitched together blocks featuring the handiwork of others for church quilts.

"I knew something was up because Mom kept asking for dates of events, sorority letters and old sweatshirts. I had no idea she was doing this."

The quilt's 12 squares encompass Tina's date of birth, hobbies, mentary school activities, high school events, church work and her est in gymnastics.

A UNC-G Spartan Warrior logo symbolizes her ties to the unive

An apple tree cor up images of her gran father's apple farm, wl Tina spent a lot of tim child. Nancy continue operate the farm along Tina's Aunt Jane.

A map of the U.S. various locations wher celebrated her June bi while traveling with h family. The Moretz cla on the road every June several years as they c bined vacations with J trips to national Jayce conventions.

Jerry served for t a half terms as treasur the North Carolina Jay

Those trips inclu visits to Disney World, Indianapolis and Seattle. During the long trip West Coast, Tina celebrated her 10th birthday at the Teddy Roosev National Park in South Dakota.

The quilt is now displayed at the Moretz home—on a rack Tin brother Bradley made especially for that purpose. However, it'll soo move to a highly-visible spot in her Winston-Salem home.

"I don't have much room and I would never use it on a bed. I'll keep it on the rack and keep turning it to show the various blocks."

Sign War: A Game Of Oneupmansh

Did you hear the one about the competing doughnut shop that played a fierce game of oneupmanship through window sig

The owner of one shop started it all by displaying a sign re ing: "Best doughnuts in the WORLD!"

The second answered with this sign: "Best doughnuts in th UNIVERSE!"

Doughnut patrons watched in suspense, wondering what t owner of the third shop could possibly do to top his competito When he finally displayed his sign, it read: "Best doughnuts ON THIS STREET!"

Chatham County: Hot Spot On Show Biz Maps

Folks around Chatham County may have become somewhat jaded about show business personalities since Frances ("Aunt Bee") Bavier made her home in Siler City for many years before her death last year.

e community found a place on "show biz" maps after the former The Andy Griffith Show" moved there to enjoy a quiet retirement. en so, many Chatham County residents undoubtedly took more ual notice when several entertainment celebrities visited the area he same week in early April.

st of them were part of the cast and crew of the movie, "Once " which had been filming in the Raleigh/Durham area for several efore moving to Mann's Chapel in northern Chatham County. ors involved in the scene included Holly Hunter, Richard Dreyfuss, iello and Greg German. Also on hand were producers Griffin Mac Brown and Amy Robinson.

e rural church was selected for the location filming because the akers thought it looked like it could be a New England chapel. s the setting for the film's wedding scene.

anwhile, when the Goldston High School Class of '55 assembled for its 35th reunion, a celebrity of another stripe joined his classmates for the festivities: country music star Charlie Daniels.

Daniels and his family lived in various places throughout Eastern North Carolina because his father was constantly on the move as a lumberman. When Charlie was little, the family made their home in the Chatham County community of Gulf for a while before moving on. But they later returned when Charlie was in the eighth grade. This time they stayed long enough for the boy to finish high school.

While he was part of the Class of '55, he organized his first band, The Misty Mountain Boys, and had a regular program on a Sanford radio station.

At the reunion, he told the crowd: "This place and you people are a big part of my songs."

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